



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/492,218	01/27/2000	David H. Sitrick	STD 1757	9593

20787 7590 05/09/2002

SITRICK & SITRICK  
8340 N LINCOLN AVENUE SUITE 201  
SKOKIE, IL 60077

EXAMINER

FLETCHER, MARLON T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2837

DATE MAILED: 05/09/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/492,218

Applicant(s)

SITRICK, DAVID H.

Examiner

Marlon T Fletcher

Art Unit

2837

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-113 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 41-51 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40, 53-76, 79-96 and 99-113 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 52, 77, 78, 97 and 98 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 10.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-40, and 53-76, 79-96, and 99-113 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Friedman (WO 98/50900) in view of Taki et al. (5,665,927) and Ishii (5,400,687).

Friedman discloses A music display system for use by a plurality of users in providing a plurality of display presentations of a selected musical composition, said system comprising: a plurality of individual workstations (68), each workstation comprising a communication interface providing for communications with the respective workstation of music data representative of the selected musical composition and memory for locally storing the music data responsive to the communications interface as discussed on page 13, lines 20-23; and a display apparatus (12) for providing a local visual display presentation representative of the selected musical composition responsive to the stored music data as discussed on page 13, lines 10-23. The system further comprises an input device responsive to a performance by the user of the displayed musical composition for providing an output of user performance data as discussed on page 13, lines 12-14. The music display system comprises memory means; processing means coupled to the memory means for processing the music data to provide presentation data; a presentation apparatus to provide a video presentation

on a video display responsive to the presentation data; and means for editing the video presentation to create a modified presentation and storing data representative of the editing in the memory means as disclosed in the abstract; wherein the processing means provides modified presentation data responsive to the data representative of the editing, and wherein the presentation apparatus is responsive to the modified presentation data to display the modified video presentation as discussed on page 14, lines 12-17. The system includes a footswitch (28). The system is housed in a common housing to form a self-contained unit as seen in figure 3. The system further comprises means for synchronizing the presentation on the plurality of local visual display presentations of the selected musical composition.

Friedman disclose most of the components of the claimed invention.

However, the differences are made up by Taki et al. and Ishii. Taki et al. provide a system, wherein a user interface is provided for a user signal responsive to a user stimulus. Taki et al. discloses that the user interface is a touchscreen video display (6).

Ishii discloses a system, comprising advancing the presentation of the video display to show the time advance of music notation responsive to the user signal via means (13, 14). Ishii provide a system, wherein the user interface is hands-free and is a switch as seen in figure 1. Ishii provides a system, wherein the music display changes location over time, wherein the multiple different signals provide for selective control of music display location movement to one of forwards, backwards, and to a marked location as seen in figure 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to utilize the teachings of Taki et al. and Ishii with the apparatus of Friedman, because Taki et al. and Ishii, provide small enhancements that overall make Friedman more efficient with more ability for performance in editing as well as displaying musical composition.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 41-51 are allowed.
4. Claims 52, 77, 78, 97, and 98, are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marlon T Fletcher whose telephone number is 703-308-0848. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Nappi can be reached on 703-308-3370. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Art Unit: 2837

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marlon T. Fletcher". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "M" and a cursive "F".

Marlon T Fletcher  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2837

MTF  
May 6, 2002